

**BILLERICAY**  
**Rural District Council.**

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**REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**Medical Officer of Health**  
**FOR THE YEAR 1911.**

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BRENTWOOD :  
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KINGS ROAD.

# Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1911 and previous Years.

Year.	Popula- tion estimated to middle of each Year	Births			Total Deaths Regis- tered in the District.			Transferable Deaths		Net Deaths belonging to the District.		
		Un- corrected Number	Nett.		Number. *	Rate	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age		At all ages.	
			Number.	Rate*					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett births.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1906	15192		376	24.8	494	14.4			36	95.7	187	15.2
1907	"		391	25.7	386	15			20	51.1	156	10.2
1908	"		409	26.9	444	13.3			28	68.5	194	12.7
1909	"		378	25.7	418	11.8			18	47.1	176	11.5
1910	"		362	23.8	423	24.1			30	80.6	159	10.4
1911	21557		389	18.	525	24.3	313	13	31	80.3	225	10.4

\* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).	49350 less acreage of Brentwood U. D.	Total population at all ages			At Census of 1911.		
		Number of inhabited houses			No return		
		Average number of persons per house			No return		
		...			21557		

TABLE III.

## Billericay R.S. District.

Causes of and Ages at Death, during the Year 1911.

CAUSES OF DEATH	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.									Total deaths in pub- lic in- stituti- ons in Distct. II
	All ages	Un- der 1 yr.	1 & Un- der 2	2 & Un- der 5	5 & Un- der 15	15 & Un- der 25	25 & Un- der 45	45 & Un- der 65	65 & Up- wds.	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
I										
Enteric fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough ... ..	I	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Diphtheria and croup ... ..	I	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	I
Influenza ... ..	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	3	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cerebro-Spinal fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuber- culosis) ... ..	7	...	...	...	...	1	6	...	...	24
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	2	...	I	...	I	...	...	...	...	...
Other tuberculous diseases ... ..	5	2	...	...	...	...	I	2	...	3
Rheumatic fever ... ..	I	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cancer, malignant disease ... ..	24	...	...	...	...	...	I	II	12	12
Bronchitis ... ..	14	...	I	...	...	...	...	I	12	10
Broncho-Pneumonia ... ..	I	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Pneumonia (all other forms) ... ..	9	...	I	...	...	I	...	I	6	37
Other diseases of respiratory organs ... ..	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	2	11
Diarrhœa and enteritis ... ..	24	14	2	...	2	...	I	3	2	6
Appendicitis and typhlitis ... ..	I	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	2
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of liver ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's disease ... ..	13	...	...	...	I	...	...	7	5	45
Puerperal fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and par- turation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital debility and mal- formation, including premature birth ... ..	12	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent deaths, excluding suicide ... ..	3	I	...	I	...	...	I	...	...	I
Suicides ... ..	4	...	...	...	...	...	3	I	...	...
Senile Decay... ..	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	38	42
Heart disease ... ..	19	...	...	...	...	...	4	5	10	35
Other defined diseases ... ..	36	...	...	...	...	...	2	13	19	98
Diseases ill-defined or un- known ... ..	I	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...
All causes ... ..	224	31	6	3	6	3	19	47	109	356

TABLE III.  
Essex County Asylum.

Causes of and Ages at Death, during the Year 1911.

CAUSES OF DEATH  I	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.									Total deaths in pub- lic in- stitu- tions in Distct.  II
	All ages	Un- der 1 yr.	1 & Un- der 2	2 & Un- der 5	5 & Un- der 15	15 & Un- der 25	25 & Un- der 45	45 & Un- der 65	65 & Up- wds.	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Enteric fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuber- culosis) ... ..	22	...	...	...	...	3	13	5	1	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other tuberculous diseases ... ..	3	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...
Rheumatic fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease ... ..	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...
Bronchitis ... ..	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	...
Broncho-Pneumonia ... ..	23	...	...	...	1	3	7	6	6	...
Pneumonia (all other forms) ... ..	32	...	...	...	...	2	7	12	11	...
Other diseases of respiratory organs ... ..	10	...	...	...	...	1	6	3	...	...
Diarrhœa and enteritis ... ..	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...
Appendicitis and typhlitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of liver ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's disease ... ..	42	...	...	...	...	...	4	24	14	...
Puerperal fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and par- turation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital debility and mal- formation, including premature birth ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent deaths, excluding suicide ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicides ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Senile Decay. . . . .	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	23	...
Heart disease ... ..	31	...	...	...	...	2	10	12	7	...
Other defined diseases ... ..	83	...	...	...	8	5	35	30	5	...
Diseases ill-defined or un- known ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All causes ... ..	289	...	...	...	10	17	86	101	75	...

TABLE III.

## The Cottage Hospital, Shenfield.

Causes of and Ages at Death, during the Year 1911.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							Total deaths in pub- lic in- stituti- ons in Distct.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	
	2	3	5	6	7	8	9	
Enteric fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	I	...	I	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuber- culosis) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rheumatic fever ... ..	I	...	...	...	I	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronco-Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all other forms)	I	...	...	...	I	...	...	...
Other diseases of respiratory organs ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ...	2	I	...	I	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis...	I	...	I	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's disease	I	...	...	I	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and par- turation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital debility and mal- formation, including premature birth ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent deaths, excluding suicide ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicides ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart disease ... ..	2	...	...	I	...	...	I	...
Other defined diseases ...	I	...	...	...	...	I	...	...
Diseases ill-defined or un- known ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All causes ... ..	12	I	2	3	2	1	3	...

TABLE IV.

# Infantile Mortality during the Year 1911.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes { certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	3	1	8
Enteritis ...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	3	5
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	3
Premature birth ...	2	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	3
Convulsions ...	1	...	...	...	1	3	1	...	...	5
Gastritis ...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Suffocation, overlying ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
	4	3	...	1	8	8	6	4	5	31

Births in the year, legitimate, 372.  
 " " illegitimate, 14.

Deaths in the year, legitimate infants, 29.  
 " " illegitimate infants, 2.



Phthis caused 7 deaths in the district. There were 22 in the Asylum from this cause. Cancer and other malignant diseases caused 24 deaths in the district and 4 in the Asylum.

The Table below gives the returns for both since and including 1907.

PHTHISIS.			CANCER.	
Year.	District.	Asylum.	District.	Asylum.
1907	13	18	23	3
1908	16	14	8	3
1909	11	24	10	7
1910	9	28	21	2
1911	7	22	24	4

The number of cases of Phthisis notified during the year was 9; of these 6 were under the 1908 regulations and 3 under the 1911 (Tuberculosis in Hospital) regulations.

The notification of all cases of Phthisis has now been made compulsory.

This is most certainly a step in the right direction, and one I have advocated for several years.

It will now be possible to do much more to prevent the spread of this fell disease. The cases will be visited and advised as to the best means to be taken in each case to help forward the cure of the patient and prevent the spread of the disease.

With the loyal aid of all the medical practitioners in the district, I am of opinion that much good can be done towards this end.

In my opinion the most satisfactory way to prevent the spread and promote the cure of this disease, is by the removal of all patients to a Sanatorium. For it is only in such a place that all the necessary regulations and treatment can be strictly enforced, and unless the treatment is rigidly adhered to, cure of cases and proper isolation will not be promoted.

I find it very difficult to get patients and their friends to realise how infectious this disease is, and to treat it as they do any other notifiable infectious disease.

I am of opinion that the Sanitary Authority of each district should make provision for the sanatorium treatment of its own cases, either by establishing a sanatorium of its own within the district, or by combining with other districts adjacent to it for this purpose.

I do not think it would be advisable to establish one large sanatorium for the whole county, as I am sure many patients would refuse to go into such an one if situated many miles from their own home and difficult of access by their friends; whereas they would be quite willing to go into a sanatorium within a reasonable distance of their own home and their friends.

Under the Insurance Act there is to be an annual exchequer grant for sanatoria. Of this grant the County of Essex will get about £35,000, and of this amount about £20,000 will be for administration and maintenance of patients. But this grant is only available for insured persons under the Act, and no provision is made for the wives and families of insured persons.

It is estimated that at least £70,000 will be required for the County of Essex for the tuberculosis cases, *i.e.*, an additional £35,000 annually.

I think the best scheme would be for the whole county to be rated, to provide this sum, by the County Council, and that the County Council should establish two or more large sanatoria, and each district be left to provide for its own cases within its own district or by combination with neighbouring authorities; local sanatoria to be provided, whence all favourable cases could be transferred to a County Sanatorium. The County Council to make a grant to each district out of the £70,000 according to the rateable value of the district.

One thing is certain. This part of the Insurance Act is to be put into force before long, and therefore something requires to be done soon as to the best ways and means of getting the benefits of the Act.

Two hundred and thirty-one cases of Infectious disease were notified as against 57 last year.

Twenty-three of these were Diphtheria, 21 were Scarlet Fever, 10 were Erysipelas, 4 were Enteric Fever, 163 were Measles, and one was Smallpox.



As will be seen, the increase in numbers is entirely due to Measles.

Notification of Measles and Chickenpox was made compulsory on April 11th, 1911, for two months, and in June was extended for a further period of two years.

I think it was wise to add these diseases to the notifiable ones.

Measles has been in former time held in too slight respect, and no precautions were taken to isolate the cases.

The after effects of this disease are frequently very serious, often maiming a person for life, and a great deal of this can be prevented by medical attention in the early stages.

Sixteen cases of Chickenpox were notified.

This disease in itself is not a serious one, but it often closely resembles smallpox, and smallpox cases can easily be unsuspectingly put down as chickenpox, and thus an epidemic of a very serious disease may be started. Every year a larger number of children are growing up who have been exempted from vaccination under the Conscientious Objectors' Clause; therefore, should an epidemic of smallpox arise, it will be a very serious thing and spread rapidly.

I am strongly of opinion that vaccination should once again be made compulsory.

One case of Smallpox occurred in the district in a youth, aged 17 years, from Laindon. He had only been in Laindon two days, having come down from London with the disease on him. He had been vaccinated when a baby, and to this may be attributed the fact that the case was of a mild type. The case was notified on a Friday evening, and was removed to a specially-erected temporary Hospital by 3 p.m. on the next day. The whole Hospital was erected and furnished, a nurse and caretakers obtained within 20 hours of notification. My best thanks are due to the Sanitary Inspector for the Eastern district for his invaluable and energetic help, which enabled me to have the Hospital all prepared in such a short space of time.

There was erected one Hospital tent, a Nurse's tent, a Caretaker's and Kitchen tent, on the ground in Jackson's Lane, Great Burstead, which this Authority retains under

PARISHES IN WHICH THE PRINCIPAL ZYMOTIC  
DISEASES WERE NOTIFIED.

Parish.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Measles.	Chicken- pox.
Bowers Gifford ...	1	...	...	9	1
Little Warley ...	1	...	2	16	...
Little Burstead ...	...	1	...	4	...
Great Burstead ...	...	10	...	4	2
South Weald ...	9	...	...	23	1
Laindon ...	...	3	...	1	2
Pitsea ...	...	...	...	38	1
North Benfleet ...	...	...	...	22	8
Shenfield ...	4	...	1	12	...
Basildon ...	...	...	...	1	...
East Horndon ...	...	...	...	11	...
Vange ...	...	1	...	3	...
Ingrave ...	...	...	...	4	...
Hutton ...	2	2	...	...	1
Ramsden Crays ...	2	2	1	...	...
Ramsden Bellhouse ...	...	1	...	...	...
Mountnessing ...	2	1	...	...	...
Total ...	21	21	4	142	16

CASES ADMITTED INTO THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL  
DISEASES AND AGES ON ADMISSION.

	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65.
Scarlet Fever ...	22	1	4	15	...	2
Diphtheria... ..	21	...	1	9	3	8
Enteric Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Measles ...	4	...	3	...	1	...
Total ...	49	1	8	24	4	12

certain conditions in event of it being required for cases of Smallpox.

The Isolation Hospital was occupied all the year, with the exception of those periods between March 4th and March 27th, and July 27th and Sept. 7th.

In all, 49 cases were admitted as against 41 last year ; 22 of these were Scarlet Fever, 21 were Diphtheria, 4 were Measles, one was Enteric Fever, and one was Erysipelas. None of these cases call for special comment. The case of Erysipelas was admitted from the Brentwood Cottage Hospital.

TABLE II.  
Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1911.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwds	
Small-pox ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	23	...	1	10	6	6	...	...	21
Erysipelas ... ..	10	...	...	...	1	5	2	2	...
Scarlet fever ... ..	21	...	7	12	1	1	...	...	13
Typhus fever... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever... ..	4	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	1
Relapsing fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Phthisis { Under Tuberculosis Regulations, 1908. ... ..	6	...	...	...	2	3	1	...	...
Measles { Under Tuberculosis Regulations, 1911 ... ..	3	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...
...	163	7	49	87	14	6	...	...	4
Totals ... ..	231	7	57	111	27	22	5	2	40

Of the 49 cases admitted into Hospital, 10 were from the Brentwood Urban District.

The average duration of stay in Hospital was 41 days for Scarlet Fever patients, 28 for Diphtheria patients, and 40 for Enteric Fever patients.

The work of the Hospital has been carried on in a highly efficient manner by all its staff.

Extra accommodation was required for six weeks during November and part of December, and for this purpose tents were erected near to the Hospital and an extra nurse engaged.

The question of providing increased accommodation has been considered, and plans were submitted to the Local Government Board for this purpose.

The Board held an enquiry.

Since then the Board has asked for amended plans, and these have now been submitted and practically approved, and it seems likely that the building of the new part will shortly be commenced.

Dairy farming is the chief industry of the district, which is essentially an agricultural one.

The conditions under which this is carried on continue to show improvement.

Greater attention is now paid to cleanliness of cows, cowsheds, milkers and utensils used. The larger part of the milk produced in this district is sent to London and its suburbs, or to Southend and Westcliffe-on-Sea.

The milk is good, and there is no tampering with it before it leaves this district.

A greater attention is now paid to the question of Tuberculosis in milk, and the discovered cases have been very few this year. It would be a great advantage if the provision of washable and clean overalls for milkers was made compulsory by law, as also the necessity for cleaning the udders of the cows, and the hands of the milkers should be.

The appointment of a Veterinary Inspector to examine the cows throughout the district periodically, and the destruction and compensating for the loss of all tuberculous cows would add greatly to the provision of pure and healthy milk, and would, I feel sure, be gladly acceded to by all dairy farmers.

A strict watch is kept by the Sanitary Inspectors to prevent the sale of unwholesome food, or food unfit for human consumption selling for human use. Especially was this necessary during the summer, which showed a greater duration of heat than usual.

There were a number of cases of Epidemic Diarrhœa in the district of this Authority during August and September, and in nearly all cases the mischief was caused by the fouling of food by flies. Food should be kept covered in such a way as to prevent flies getting to it, but not air.

Flies are attracted by decaying refuse and garbage, which in very many instances in this district is allowed to lie in heaps just outside the back door of the houses, and from the heaps thus get into the house and on to good food.

A scheme for collecting house refuse and garbage is in force in parts of South Weald and Shenfield parishes, and a similar scheme was inaugurated in part of Great Burstead parish during last summer. It is a right step, and tends to largely increase the health of the district where it is in force. An extension of the areas of collection would be very beneficial.

The water supply of the district is chiefly supplied now by two Companies—the Western side by the South Essex Water Co. and the Eastern by the Southend Waterworks Co. Both of these Companies maintain an efficient and continuous supply. The water supplied by these companies is obtained almost entirely from deep wells situated within and without the district. The water supplied by the Southend Waterworks, too, is a particularly soft one, and has a high solvency power.

The question of the provision of cottages for working men by this Authority has received a lot of attention and has been much discussed at meetings within and without the Council. The Housing and Town Planning Act has now



been in force for one year, and has already shown itself to be a beneficent Act and one which was wanted.

I append in tabulated form the result of the year's inspection. This does not represent the total inspection of all cottages in the district, as up to the present there has not been time for the whole to be done.

I went on the principle of dealing with the worst first as far as we could judge. This table speaks for itself.

There were 49 cottages inspected last year, in which nothing short of pulling down and entirely rebuilding could make them habitable, and besides these there were discovered 44 cases of overcrowding, taking the legal minimum of the Local Government Board (*i.e.*, 300 cubic feet of air space for each adult) as a basis. In nearly all these cases it was almost impossible to abate the overcrowding, as there were no other cottages available for the tenants to go into.

The whole 280 cottages visited during the year were in a state injurious to health and often dangerous, at the time of visit, in the opinion of myself and the Sanitary Inspectors ; but in 232 of these it was, in our opinion, possible to make the cottages habitable and safe, for a time at any rate, given that the landlords were able and willing to spend sufficient money on them.

Notices were served in all cases, and they were in the majority of cases complied with, but not in all up to the present.

In Mountnessing two cottages were closed by the landlord as he did not consider they were worth repairing.

In Bowers Gifford two cottages were closed and two new ones built to replace them.

In South Weald two cottages were closed, but these have since been thoroughly renovated and put into a good condition.

It must be borne in mind that, were it not that cottages are so scarce throughout the district, a much larger number would be condemned and really require to be closed.

The 49 mentioned in Col. 3 of the Table are the absolutely hopeless, unfit, and unsafe ones.

Name of Parish.	No. of Cottages Inspected.	Cases in which Notices were issued.	No. of Cottages unfit for habitation, and which could not reasonably be made fit.	No. of Cottages Closed.	No. of Cases of Overcrowding.
Basildon ...	7	7	1	1	1
North Benfleet ...	7	7	1	...	...
Bowers Gifford ...	10	10	4	2	...
Great Burstead ...	45	45	8	...	18
Little Burstead ...	7	7	1	...	3
Downham ...	6	6	2	...	2
Laindon ...	21	21	2	...	1
Lee Chapel ...	1	1	1	...	1
Nevedon ...	9	9	2	...	...
Pitsea ...	8	8	...	...	...
Vange ...	23	23	2	...	...
Ramsden Crays ...	6	6	...	...	...
Ramsden Bellhouse... ..	16	16	8	...	2
Wickford ...	26	26	6	...	2
Mountnessing ...	10	10	3	2	2
Hutton ...	7	7	2	...	1
Ingrave ...	8	8	1	...	3
East Horndon ...	25	25	3	1	5
Little Warley ...	2	2	...	...	...
South Weald... ..	36	36	2	2	3
Total ...	280	280	49	8	44

I am much indebted to the Sanitary Inspectors for their help in this matter of inspections. They visit each cottage in their respective districts and take notes in detail of the conditions.

This Authority has decided to make a start in a small way. A site for the erection of seven cottages has been acquired in Great Burstead parish. A Local Government Board Enquiry has been held, and the sanction of the Board obtained to the plans submitted by Mr. Bird, the architect, on behalf of the Council.

It is to be hoped that, having made a start, the question of providing suitable and sufficient cottages will be taken up thoroughly, and cottages provided in all parts of the district. There is no part, and hardly one parish in the district which does not require cottages.

The lack of proper cottage accommodation is not only producing a weakly, unhealthy race of children, but it is also driving many of the younger members of the working classes away from the district into the large towns, there often only to swell the number of the unemployed while the country districts are wanting workers. Many young people are unable to get married and make a home for themselves because there are not cottages to be had.

The crux of the whole question seems to be the financial one. Are these cottages to be erected out of a district rate, or is each parish to provide for its own needs? I fear that many of those in authority in the district are more apt to consider the rates and the ratepayers than the hard working labourer, who has to toil hard and have his health and that of his family undermined by unhealthy, damp, insanitary, and unsafe dwellings.

The future men and women of this nation of ours are being reared under conditions which produce physical degeneration and increasing immorality.

My opinion is that were more attention given to efficiently housing the working classes of this country there would be far fewer persons dependent or partly dependent on the poor law rate.

What is wanted are good cottages with three bedrooms at least, one large living room, one scullery not quite large enough to be used as a living room, a pantry, a good water supply, good drainage, and a garden, and let at a rental of 3s. to 4s. a week, and I am of opinion that houses fulfilling all these conditions can be built in blocks of six or more and made to pay.

Whether the cost is to be a district charge or a parish one has not been definitely settled in the district of this Authority. The Act says it is to be a district one unless special circumstances can be shown, and I understand that the circumstances require to be special.

One thing is certain, that unless the charge is to be a district one, some of the parishes in the district of this Authority will not be able to have any cottages built.

Whether the charge be a district or a parish rate, to adequately carry out the Housing and Town Planning Act, and so to give each workman a decently commodious and a sanitary dwelling, will place a heavy burden on the ratepayers of this district, and will, on that account, take some time to carry out. It seems to me that an annual grant from the Exchequer would be a more speedy and more equable way of fulfilling the obligations of the Act.

The extension of the sewer at Mountnessing to Sheep's Head Green has been carried out, and is a great advantage to that part.

The Sewage scheme for Billericay and the portion of Mountnessing adjacent has received the sanction of the Local Government Board, and at last seems likely to be carried out, as this Authority has decided to invite tenders for the work, and the Engineers have been instructed to prepare for obtaining them. The accomplishing of this work will do away with the pollution of the sources of the River Crouch, into which much of the sewage of Billericay has been pouring untreated for many years past.

South Weald and Shenfield have now an excellent sewage system, and part of Mountnessing enjoys a good system. Consideration of a sewage scheme for Ingrave, East Horndon

and Herongate will be necessary before long, and is really necessary now. There is at present no system there, and much of the sewage drains into ditches and ponds from which cattle drink.

This part of the district is attracting a large number of good class residents, and many new villas have been erected in recent years. A good system could be easily devised to take all this part of the district.

The factories, bakehouses and workshops in the district have been inspected, and where improvements were asked for I always found a ready willingness on the part of the owner or occupier to effect them.

There are no underground bakehouses or workshops in the district.

Several new houses of the villa type have been erected, and many samples of water analysed.

I append the Inspector's Reports.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. DOUGLAS WELLS, M.B.



## ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL.

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SUMMARY OF WORK done through the Sanitary Inspector in the Rural Sanitary District of Billericay (Western Division) during the year ending December 31st, 1911:—

- 43 Complaints received.
- 176 Nuisances detected without complaint.
- 198 Nuisances abated.
- 98 Notices served.
- Summonses taken out, nil.
- Convictions, nil.
- 556 Cottages inspected.
- Lodging-houses inspected, nil. None in district.
- 15 Slaughter-houses inspected.
- 14 Bakehouses inspected.
- 44 Dairies and Milk shops inspected.
- 115 Cowsheds inspected. Four Sheds have been closed and others greatly improved.
- 23 Workshops inspected.
- 3 Filthy houses cleansed, sec. 46 Public Health Act, 1875.
- 42 Houses disinfected.
- 7 Overcrowding abated.
- 23 Houses placed in habitable repair.
- 2 Houses closed.
- 44 Houses erected or re-built for which Water "Certificates" were applied.
- 41 Certificates granted.
- 3 " " deferred.
- 6 Wells sunk or improved supplies of Water afforded.
- 9 Wells cleansed or repaired.
- Wells closed, nil.
- 34 Houses connected with sewers.
- 60 " " " with water mains.
- 20 Earth, pail, or improved Privies constructed or existing Privies altered.
- 21 Privies and W.C.'s repaired; W.C.'s supplied with water.
- 4 Cisterns cleansed, repaired, or covered, removed, direct supply provided.
- Animals improperly kept removed, nil.
- 11 Samples of water taken for Analysis.
- Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding, £3 7s. 6d.
- Seizures of unsound Meat, &c., nil.

(Signed) SAMUEL J. SHELLEY.

## ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL.

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SUMMARY OF WORK done through the Sanitary Inspector in the Eastern Sanitary District of Billericay during the year ending December 31st, 1911:—

- 23 Complaints received.
- 147 Nuisances detected without complaint.
- 151 Nuisances abated.
- 76 Notices served.
- Summonses taken out, nil.
- 1 Conviction.
- 390 Cottages inspected.
- Lodging-houses inspected, nil.
- 20 Slaughter-houses inspected.
- 18 Bakehouses inspected.
- 92 { Dairies and Milk Shops inspected.
- { Cowsheds inspected.
- 6 Workshops inspected.
- Filthy houses cleansed, sec. 46 Public Health Act, 1875, nil.
- 27 Houses disinfected.
- 2 Overcrowding abated.
- 35 Houses placed in habitable repair.
- 2 Houses closed.
- 60 Houses erected or re-built for which Water "Certificates" were applied.
- 49 "Certificates" granted.
- 11 " " deferred.
- Wells sunk or improved supplies of Water afforded, nil.
- 11 Wells cleansed or repaired.
- 2 Wells closed.
- 7 Houses connected with sewers.
- 141 " " with water mains.
- 42 Earth, pail, or improved Privies constructed or existing Privies altered.
- 12 Privies and W.C.'s repaired ; W.C.'s supplied with water.
- Cisterns cleansed, repaired, or covered, nil.
- 3 Animals improperly kept removed.
- 15 Samples of water taken for Analysis.
- Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding, nil.
- Seizures of unsound Meat, &c., nil.

(Signed) R. J. W. LAYLAND.

## INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

	Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories, including Factory Laundries	8	...
Workshops, including Workshop Laundries	52	7

## DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

	Found.	Remedied.
Want of cleanliness ... ..	7	7
Want of ventilation ... ..	5	4
Other nuisances ... ..	2	2
Sanitary accommodation unsuitable or defective	2	2
Total	16	15

## REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Builders and Contractors	...	3	Wheelwrights' shops	...	2
Smiths and Farriers	...	14	Bootmakers' shops	...	3
Bakehouses	...	17	Cycle repairing shops	...	1
Dressmakers' rooms	...	7			—
Total number of workshops on Register					47

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Act (S. 133) ... 3

